

Under direction of a physician, NUCLEAR MEDICINE TECHNOLOGISTS prepare, administer, and measure radioactive isotopes in therapeutic, diagnostic, and tracer studies using a variety of radioisotope equipment. They prepare stock solutions of radioactive materials and administer it by mouth, injection, or other means to patients. They take patient's medical history and explain test procedures. They keep records of treatments and disposal of radionuclides usage and disposal.

Most Nuclear Medicine Technologists work in hospitals, but are also employed by physicians' offices and clinics.

Requirements

- ▲ Background course work in physical and biological sciences.
- ▲ Completion of two to four years of education or training in certificate or degree programs accredited by the Joint Review committee on Education Programs in Nuclear Medicine Technology.
- ▲ Adherence to strict safety guidelines.
- ▲ Certification or registration preferred.
- ▲ Physical stamina to lift and turn patients.
- ▲ Ability to work as part of a team.
- ▲ Fingerprint clearance may be required by employer.

Wages

- ▲ Nuclear Medicine Technologists
Median hourly wage: \$33.42
- ▲ Average annual wage: \$71,279

Source: Occupational Employment Survey of Employers 2006 by EDD/LMID.

Nuclear Medicine Technologists

Job Outlook

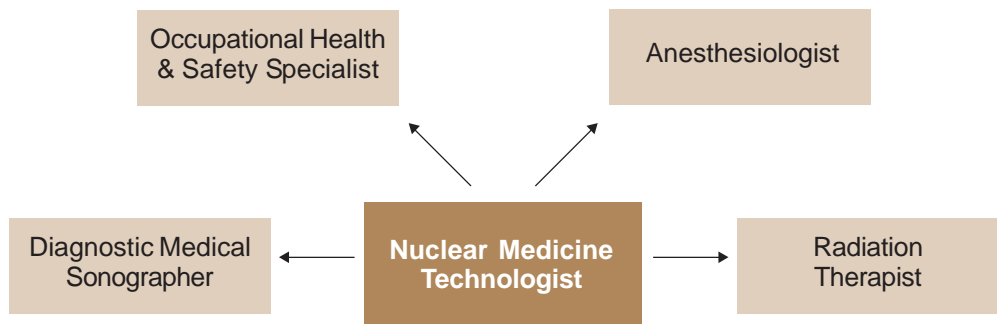
- ▲ Estimated number of Nuclear Medicine Technologists in 2004: 1,500
- ▲ Estimated number of Nuclear Medicine Technologists in 2014: 1,700
- ▲ Estimated annual job openings: 50

Source: Occupational Projections, EDD/LMID.

Sources of Information

- ▲ Society of Nuclear Medicine
(703) 708-9000
www.snm.org
- ▲ Nuclear Medicine Technology Certification Board
(404) 315-1739
www.nmtcb.org
- ▲ American Registry of Radiologic Technologists
(651) 687-0048
www.arrt.org

Possible Career Paths



The skills, knowledge, and abilities acquired for the primary occupation provide a solid foundation for further growth in health career occupations. Additional education or training is often required.